

Application No. 10/065,217
Docket No. 17MY-7239
Amendment dated March 8, 2007
Submission Accompanying RCE under 37 CFR §1.114

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REMARKS

In an Office Action dated December 8, 2006 (Paper No. 20061204), the Examiner repeated prior art rejections of claims 1-20, 23, 24, 27, and 29-32 based on U.S. Patent No. 4,810,467 to Wood et al. (Wood), U.S. Patent No. 4,039,330 to Shaw, and U.S. Patent No. 7,014,723 to Beck et al. (Beck). Wood and Shaw were cited for disclosing alloys in terms of broad ranges that closely approximates those of two different alloys recited in claims 1-10, 23, 24, and 27 ("Alloy A") and claims 11-20 and 29-32 ("Alloy B"), respectively.

In response, Applicants have amended the claims as set forth above, in which the subject matters (turbine nozzles) of claims 10 and 20 are now combined in claim 10, with the result that claim 10 requires a gas turbine engine with second and third stage nozzles whose alloys differ only in the amount of cobalt they contain. As none of the prior art teach or suggest that the different operating environments (see Applicants' specification at paragraph [0004]) could be satisfied with alloy chemistries that differ only in their cobalt contents, Applicants believe that the prior art of record does not obviate the invention as now recited in the claims.

In view of the above, favorable reconsideration and allowance of remaining claims 10, 23, 24, 27, and 29-32 are respectfully requested.

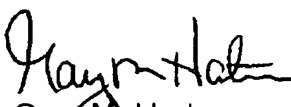
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Closing

Should the Examiner have any questions with respect to any matter
now of record, Applicants' representative may be reached at (219) 462-4999.

Respectfully submitted,

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March 8, 2007
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